

## Amendments to the Claims:

### Claims Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of operating a reference monitor simulator to recreate operations performed by a reference monitor on a computer system, the method comprising:

(A) defining at least one security rule specifying whether to allow ~~or deny~~ a request to access at least one resource;

(B) supplying at least one request to access a resource;

(C) applying the at least one security rule in response to the at least one request to access a resource to determine whether to allow ~~or prevent~~ the at least one request and to control whether access is granted to the resource; and

controlling the reference monitor simulator to operate at an accelerated rate as compared to an actual reference monitor by providing at least one parameter that defines a system environment in which the reference monitor simulator executes,

where the at least one parameter includes a time parameter that, ~~where the time parameter~~ controls one or more of, eliminating a time gap between trace requests, indicating that a time period between portions of a trace request has elapsed, and running a system clock faster than real-time,

the method being run, at least in part, as an event-driven kernel process.

2.- 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising:

(D) assessing the effectiveness of the at least one security rule.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein assessing the effectiveness of the security rule further comprises determining at least one of the number of improper access requests prevented, and the number of proper access requests allowed.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein assessing the effectiveness of the security rule further comprises determining a rate of improper requests prevented.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~(8) further~~ providing at least one request to access a resource comprises an application program supplying the at least one request to access a resource.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~(8) further~~ supplying at least one request to access a resource comprises capturing at least one request to access a resource before supplying the at least one request to access a resource.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein a reference monitor performs the capture of the at least one request to access a resource.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the reference monitor that ~~which~~ performs the capture of the at least one request to access a resource is the same type of reference monitor as the reference monitor whose operations are recreated by the reference monitor simulator.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the captured at least one request to access a resource is an improper request.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein an improper request comprises a request issued by an application in response to one of a virus and a buffer overrun attack.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the captured at least one request is modified prior to supplying the at least one request to access a resource.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the modification is performed by a user.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein an electronic file system stores the at least one security rule, and

wherein ~~(D) further~~ assessing the effectiveness of the at least one security rule comprises the reference monitor simulator accessing the security rule in the electronic file system in response to receiving the at least one request to access a resource.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one parameter provided to the reference monitor simulator ~~further includes~~ comprises at least one of a system clock, a wrapper function, and a timer event.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising:

~~(E)~~ maintaining statistics on the operation of the reference monitor simulator.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the statistics include at least one of, the number of requests per resource, number of total requests, type of request per resource, total of each type of request, number of queries, number of callbacks, number of requests allowed compared to number of requests expected, and number of requests prevented compared to number of prevented requests expected.

21.-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a reference monitor simulator for simulating the operations performed by a reference monitor, the system comprising:

- a definer component to define at least one security rule specifying whether to allow or deny a request to access at least one resource under a given set of circumstances;
- a supplier component to supply at least one request to access a resource;
- and
- an applier component to apply the at least one security rule in response to the at least one request to access a resource to determine whether to allow or prevent the at least one request; and
- a control component to control the reference monitor simulator to operate at an accelerated rate as compared to an actual reference monitor by providing at least one parameter that defines a system environment in which the reference monitor simulator executes,

where the at least one parameter includes a time parameter, ~~where the time parameter~~ that controls one or more of, eliminating a time gap between trace requests, indicating that a time period between portions of a trace request has elapsed, and running a system clock faster than real-time,

where the applier component and control component operate, at least in part, at the kernel level, and where the system is event-driven.

42. – 45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, ~~further~~ comprising an assessor component to assess the effectiveness of the at least one security rule.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46, wherein assessing the effectiveness of the security rule ~~further~~ comprises determining at least one of, the number of improper access requests prevented, and the number of proper access requests allowed.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46, wherein assessing the effectiveness of the security rule ~~further~~ comprises determining a rate of improper requests prevented.

49. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, ~~further~~ comprising an application program to supply the supplier component with the at least one request to access a resource.

50. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, ~~further~~ comprising a capture component to capture at least one request to access a resource before supplying the at least one request to access a resource.

51. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 50, wherein the capture component includes a second reference monitor.

52. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the second reference monitor is a same type of reference monitor as the reference monitor whose operations are recreated by the reference monitor simulator.

53. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 50, wherein the capture component captures at least one improper request to access a resource ~~which is an improper request~~.

54. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 53, wherein an improper request comprises a request issued by an application in response to one of a virus, and a buffer overrun attack.

55. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 50, ~~further~~ comprising a modification component to modify at least one captured request prior to supplying the at least one request to access a resource.

56. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 55, wherein the modification component takes input from a user.

57. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, ~~further~~ comprising an electronic file system that ~~which~~ stores the at least one security rule, and where the applier component accesses the security rule in the electronic file system in response to receiving at least one request to access a resource.

58. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the provider component provides at least one parameter to the reference monitor simulator which includes at least one of a system clock, a wrapper function, and a timer event.

59. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, further comprising:  
(E) a statistics component to maintain statistics on the operation of the reference monitor simulator.

60. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 59, wherein the statistics component maintains statistics that ~~which~~ include at least one of, the number of requests per resource, number of total requests, type of request per resource, total of each type of request, number of queries, number of callbacks, number of requests allowed compared to number of requests expected, and number of requests prevented compared to number of prevented requests expected.

61. – 98. (Canceled)